Remarks

The present application is a Continuation-in-Part application filed under CFR 1.53 (b). Thirty -two claims are pending in this application, claims 1-20 filed with the parent application and claims 21-32 added by this Preliminary Amendment.

Support for new claims 21-32 is found at page 8, line 21 to page 10, line 20 and in Figures 2C, 2D, 2E and 2F. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

In the office action dated June 27, 2001 and directed to Serial No. 09/556,765, the parent application of the present application, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C.112, first paragraph, because the best mode contemplated by the inventor has not been disclosed. The Examiner further rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, in that the claims contained subject matter not described in the specification in such a manner as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Page 8, line 21 through page 10 line 20 of the present application fully describes the adjustable cutting assembly of the invention and the best mode as contemplated by the inventors. Figures 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E and 2F of the present application fully illustrate the preferred embodiments of the present invention as contemplated by the inventors.

Applicants submit that the specification of the present application contains a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in full, clear, concise and exact terms enabling any person skilled in the art to make and use the invention, and sets forth the best mode contemplated by the inventors of carrying out their invention. Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

New claims 21-32 are directed to features and details of the present invention to which the Applicants believe they are entitled to. As best Applicants can determine, the subject matter of new claims 21-32 is n ither taught nor

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S/N: 09/955,476 Cas 100200533-1 Preliminary Amendment suggested by the art cited by the Examiner in the parent case, and Applicants believe that new claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-32 are in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing the application to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted, Brent J. McLean et al

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